

UAP Meeting  
Friday, September 16, 2022  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Holmes Student Center – Illinois Room

**Members**

**Present:** Therese Arado, Dennis Brown, Hasan Ferdowsi, Nicholas Grahovec, Dan Koenen, Linda Matuszewski, Nestor Osorio, Tawanda Paul, Jason Rhode, Ursula Sullivan, Carrie Zack, Peitao Zhu

**Guest**

**Present:** Provost Ingram

1. Welcome and Introductions – welcome was made by acting chair, Jason Rhode. Attendees shared introductions.
2. UAP Leadership Update – The Provost updated UAP members on the departure of the former chair, Ritu Subramony and the temporary appointment of an interim chair, Jason Rhode.
3. HLC Quality Initiative – The Provost and Jason Rhode provided a summary and update on the HLC Quality initiative
4. HLC site visit in March 2024 – Chris McCord will oversee the process, including the completion of the assurance argument which covers the five criteria (assessment is a large element). Jason Rhode is assisting Chris on this. They plan to draft an outline with key themes prior to creating the full draft. The assurance argument will be drafted by criterion teams by spring/summer and then circulated to the community, including UAP. What role can UAP play in helping NIU get ready for HLC visit?
5. Best Use of Meeting Time and Rethinking Assessment at NIU – The panel began discussions about how to best allocate time in future UAP meetings to address the scope of its assigned duties as well as rethinking how assessment is done at NIU. Topics for discussion at future meetings included the following:
  - Reviewing the Assessment Task Force report to consider its implications for rethinking UAP’s approach to program assessment. For example, does UAP need to review all reports? Can some flexibility be provided (e.g., to accredited programs)?
  - Considering how to encourage programs to document the assessment they are already doing. Make it clear that this is part of what they are already doing and collecting evidence, rather than an exercise in meaningless reporting.
  - Discuss how AAUs have been revised in light of Assessment Task Force report. Have discussion of survey results (when available) from AAU report writers about their experiences with the revised format.
6. General Education Assessment – Carrie Zack gave a recap on what is happening with general education assessment. UAP will need to weigh in/ensure that assessment work is

moving along in this area. Having at least a plan with a timeline to implement will be important evidence for HLC.

7. Bylaw Changes – The panel discussed the need to make changes to the bylaws to incorporate student membership recruitment and UAP leadership changes. The Provost suggested considering changing the language about the chair to something like “Provost designee” rather than a specific position title to make it more flexible. This discussion will continue at the next meeting in October.
8. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m. (Motion made by Ursula Sullivan, seconded by Therese Arado).

Meeting adjourned at 10:54am  
Next meeting Friday, October 7, 2022